

Aluminum

Info Copy

7 January 1957

THROUGH Chief, M/NF
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Aluminum and Its Source Materials

- REFERENCES: (A) Memorandum from Acting Chief, M/NF to Acting Chief, D/E, "Suggestion that Action be Taken to Have Bauxite Placed on Either COCOM II-II or COCOM II-III," 6 December 1955, Secret
- 25X1A9a (B) EDIC Intelligence Request No. 20, "Bauxite Shipments From the Free World to the Sino-Soviet Bloc," 31 January 1956, Secret/Noform
- 25X1A9a (C) EDIC Case No. 18, "Strategic Importance of Aluminum and Its Source Materials (including Bauxite) to the Sino-Soviet Bloc," 15 February 1956, Secret/Noform
- 25X1A9a (D) OMR Project No. 24.866, "Aluminum in the Sino-Soviet Bloc," initiated 1 July 1955.

Background

In pursuance of your suggestion, Reference (A), an intelligence request, Reference (B), was presented to the Economic Defense Intelligence Committee in January 1956. During a February meeting of EDIC this proposed projection bauxite was expanded, Reference (C), "to include data on aluminum requirements of the Bloc and probable Bloc imports and production of bauxite" and also "consideration of aluminum production in the Bloc from bauxite and other source materials."

Responsibility for the project as approved by EDIC was assigned to CIA, Reference (C), "with the assistance of the Department of Defense in preparing data on aluminum requirements of the Bloc." It seemed then that your project, Reference (D), including most of the information required for the EDIC study, would be completed at an early date. Recently it was learned, however, that this project, OMR No. 24.866, would not be finished until fiscal year 1958.

Requirement

It is imperative, therefore, that S/TC now submit to M/NF a request for the information which is essential to the fulfillment of the EDIC assignment as soon as possible.

The information required from M/NF with respect to the strategic importance of aluminum and its source materials to the Sino-Soviet Bloc is outlined below:

1. The effect on the Bloc of denying imports of these materials from the Free World in respect to: (a) current military programs, (b) plans for full mobilization, and (c) build-up of industrial base for mobilization.
2. The extent to which aluminum is or may be available within the Bloc for military or other strategic end-products.
3. The degree in which aluminum is or may be needed by the Bloc as a substitute for materials in shorter supply, such as copper.
4. Changes in the Bloc aluminum supply-demand situation which may be expected during the next five or ten years.
5. Differences within the Bloc, area- or industry-wise, regarding any of the foregoing factors.
6. Any additional information which is relevant to the strategic importance of aluminum and its source materials to the Bloc.

Use

The EDIC report will be used in the EDAC-ACEP structure for a review of aluminum, aluminum products, bauxite, and other source materials to determine whether U.S. and international export controls should be tightened by upgrading any of these items or including any not now covered.

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Distribution

Orig & 1 — Addressee
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25X1A9a S/TC/RR: [REDACTED] cb/4247 (7 January 1957)